

MPY-2014
5 November 1981

Memorandum for: Director, FBIS
Through : Chief, Operations Group
Subject : Monthly Report, Paraguay Bureau--
October 1981

I. GENERAL

A. Late on the evening of 20 October, AFP carried a rumor, and the denial of Paraguayan authorities, that Paraguayan President Stroessner had died. Paraguayan media monitored at the bureau avoided mentioning it at all. Two days later President Stroessner made an appearance before a large gathering of the country's military and civilian elite.

B. The remarks by President Reagan at the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank sparked quick criticism from Brazil and Argentina. Officials and commentators in those countries objected to being "graduated" into the ranks of the newly industrialized nations, which would make access to funds earmarked for the less developed countries unavailable to them.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On 12 October Peruvian authorities imposed a state of emergency in most of the provinces of Ayacucho Department following a large terrorist attack on a police station. The government mounted a large antiterrorist action which in turn generated much copy in the form of interviews with police officials and continual updates on the success of the operation.

2. On 22 October the two Asuncion television stations and the local radio stations carried live reportage from the military training school outside the city of a luncheon honoring the 30th anniversary of President Stroessner's appointment as armed forces commander in chief. Remarks were made by Major General Rodriguez which were followed by an 18-minute Stroessner speech. A large number of top military and civilian officials were in attendance. The bureau videotaped the event and filed an editorial report on the video

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coverage. This marks the bureau's formal entry into television video monitoring.

3. The bureau publications program was reviewed and updated, see attachment.

B. Lateral Consumers

On the 26th the bureau received a request from the American Consulate in Barranquilla, Colombia, for the Spanish text of a commentary the bureau had previously filed from a Moscow Peace and Progress broadcast on 9 October dealing with the "recent released" Colombian Communist Party Platform. The item was transcribed and wirefiled to the consulate on the same day.

C. Communications

Communications downtime totalled 12 hours and 30 minutes during the month. Seven messages were sent via Telex, six to Washington and one to Panama.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Personnel

1. [] tested as the best of the many applicants for the bureau's vacant monitorial position. Processing for her hire has begun. [] will be enrolled in CSR coverage when her hire has been approved by FBIS Washington.

2. All local employees received a 28.83 percent pay raise effective 4 October 1981.

B. Visitors

[] Paraguay Desk Officer, DOS Robert Service, ARA/
Southern Cone, DOS; and Cpl Michael Mallon, USMC.

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Chief, FBIS Paraguay

CC: Panama Bureau
Att'd: Eng. Report
Operations Attachment
Monthly Monitor Report
Monthly Production Report
Review/Update of Paraguay Publications
DF/clr